GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:953
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2007
HANDLOOM WEAVERS
Meghwal Shri Kailash;Thummar Shri Virjibhai;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of weavers in each State and Union Territory as per the latest handloom census;

(b) the details of the recommendations of High Level Committee constituted to evolve a financial package for handloom weavers;

(c) the action taken by the Government on the recommendations; and

(d) the details of assistance provided/likely to be provided by the Government to handloom weavers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a): The number of weavers in each State and Union Territory as per the latest handloom census is given in the statement enclosed as Annexure.

(b)&(c): The salient features of the financial package recommended for the handloom sector by the High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Managing Director, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), which is under consideration of the Government, are as under:-

i. Restructuring/Categorization of Primary Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies (PHWCSs) as viable, potentially viable and non-viable units. Broad parameters for categorizing the PWCS have been evolved.

ii. Cleansing of the balance sheet of Apex and Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies (viable and potentially viable) with adequate fund support from Government.

iii. Organization of weavers outside the cooperative fold/members of non-viable/defunct PWCSs/ Weavers in areas of weak cooperative structure into Handloom Weavers Group (HWGs) in handloom clusters adopting the concept of Joint Liability Group.

iv. Waiver of overdue interest and overdue loans of Weavers/ PWCSs/Apex Societies as on 31st March, 2006.

v. Financing the credit needs of handloom weavers/ societies at 7% rate of interest with interest subvention to NABARD and banks from Government of India.

vi. Establishment of a "Handloom Development and Equity Fund (HDEF)" in NABARD for providing equity, promotional and development support to agencies connected with the handloom sector. Government of India may provide an initial contribution of Rs.50.00 crore. NABARD may make initial contribution of Rs.10 crores and annual contributions as decided by the Board of Directors. Other banks and State Governments would also be requested to contribute to the fund later.

vii. Master weavers have to be brought into the system by recognizing their role as catalyst for weavers' development and arrangements to be made to finance them through banks.

viii. An MOU to be signed by the major stake-holders, viz, Government of India, State Government and NABARD.

(d): The Government of India is implementing a number of schemes to enhance production, productivity and efficiency of the handloom sector and to enhance the income and socio-economic status of the weavers by upgrading their skills and providing infrastructural input and marketing support. The main developmental schemes are Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, Integrated Handloom Training Project, Marketing Promotion Programme, Mill Gate Price Scheme, Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme, Weavers' Welfare Scheme and Handloom Export Scheme. Further more, new schemes of Integrated Handloom Cluster Development (IHCD), Mahatama Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojna and Health Insurance Scheme have been launched in the year 2005-06 while Handloom Mark

and Technology Upgradation Fund (TUF) Scheme have been launched in the year 2006-07.

Under the various handloom Schemes, the details of amount released during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Amount released (in Rs crores)
2003-04	206.42
2004-05	230.35
2005-06	254.87

Annexure

Statement referred to in reply to Part (a) of the Unstarred Lok Sabha Question No. 953 for answer on 06.03.2007

S. No	Name of the State	No. of Weavers
1	Andhra Pradesh	228007
2	Arunachal Pradesh	30134
3	Assam	1259878
4	Bihar	45424
5	Chattisgarh	10130
6	Delhi	2977
7	Goa	14
8	Gujarat	21350
9	Haryana	5076
10	Himachal Pradesh	47901
11	Jammu & Kashmir	20773
12	Jharkhand	26718
13	Karnataka	71238
14	Kerala	32093
15	Madhya Pradesh	12882
16	Maharashtra	38985
17	Manipur	425580
18	Meghalaya#	#
19	Mizoram#	#
20	Nagaland	81827
21	Orissa	104676
22	Pondicherry	3155
23	Punjab	5956
24	Rajasthan	37348
25	Sikkim	
26	Tamil Nadu	319600
27	Tripura	137669
28	Uttar Pradesh	221127
29	Uttaranchal	9077
30	West Bengal	270911
	Total All India	3470506

Data not received from Meghalaya and Mizoram.
No separate figures available relating to number of weavers in respect of Sikkim.